the complex nomenclature of the Douglas fir by Elbert L. Little, and monographic studies among the American locoweeds by R. C. Barneby.

Interested persons may obtain further information on *Leaflets* from the Department of Botany.

U. C. Astronomer to Speak

The fourth regular meeting of the Astronomy Section, on January 14, will feature for the first time a guest speaker, Dr. John G. Phillips, assistant professor of astronomy on the Berkeley campus of the University of California. He will discuss "The Sun—As an Astro-Physicist Sees It."

Dr. Phillips works extensively in the field of spectrum analysis, a subject which tells us much of what we know about the sun and the stars. The program, illustrated with slides, will begin at 7:30 p. m. in the Lecture Room of the Student Section. Leon E. Salanave, Planetarium lecturer, will be in charge.

After the lecture, weather permitting, the group will observe the planet Jupiter with the Academy's 4-inch refractor which was set up on the roof for the first time at the Section's December meeting. All interested members are invited to attend.

Library Receives Gift

A leather-bound book, *Contemporary Biography of California's Representative Men,* has been donated to the library by Richard F. Behan, a member of the California Academy of Sciences Council.

An inscription on the fly leaf by William T. Coleman, one of San Francisco's most famous Vigilantes, shows that the volume was first given to John Chinn, who was related to Coleman by marriage. The book was published by A. L. Bancroft in 1881.

The following members were elected by the Council at its meeting of December 9, 1952:

Regular Membership
- Mr. Elmo W. Adams
- Miss Fauno Cordes
- Mrs. Harriet P. Craven
- Mr. Herman Fast
- Mr. Eugene Gardner
- Mr. E. C. Garrette
- Mr. Mark A. Hughes
- Mr. Charles W. Kenn
- Miss Jessica Marcelli
- Mr. William E. Mottram
- Mr. Jewell M. Peirano
- Miss Bernita L. Reinike
- Miss Leona R. Scafire
- Mr. Thomas Wolter

Annual Sponsor
- Trader Vic

Contributing Membership
- Mr. and Mrs. Ransome Cook
- Mr. C. W. Elberling
- Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Wilson

Family Membership
- Mr. John E. Cushing
- Mr. Lloyd H. Fisher
- Mr. Whitcomb J. McFarland
- Mr. Harry V. Montgomery
- Mrs. Frances B. Rowell

Student Membership
- Ronald Adler
- Jack Ames
- Jeanne Davis
- Joan Johanson
- Barbara Sabin

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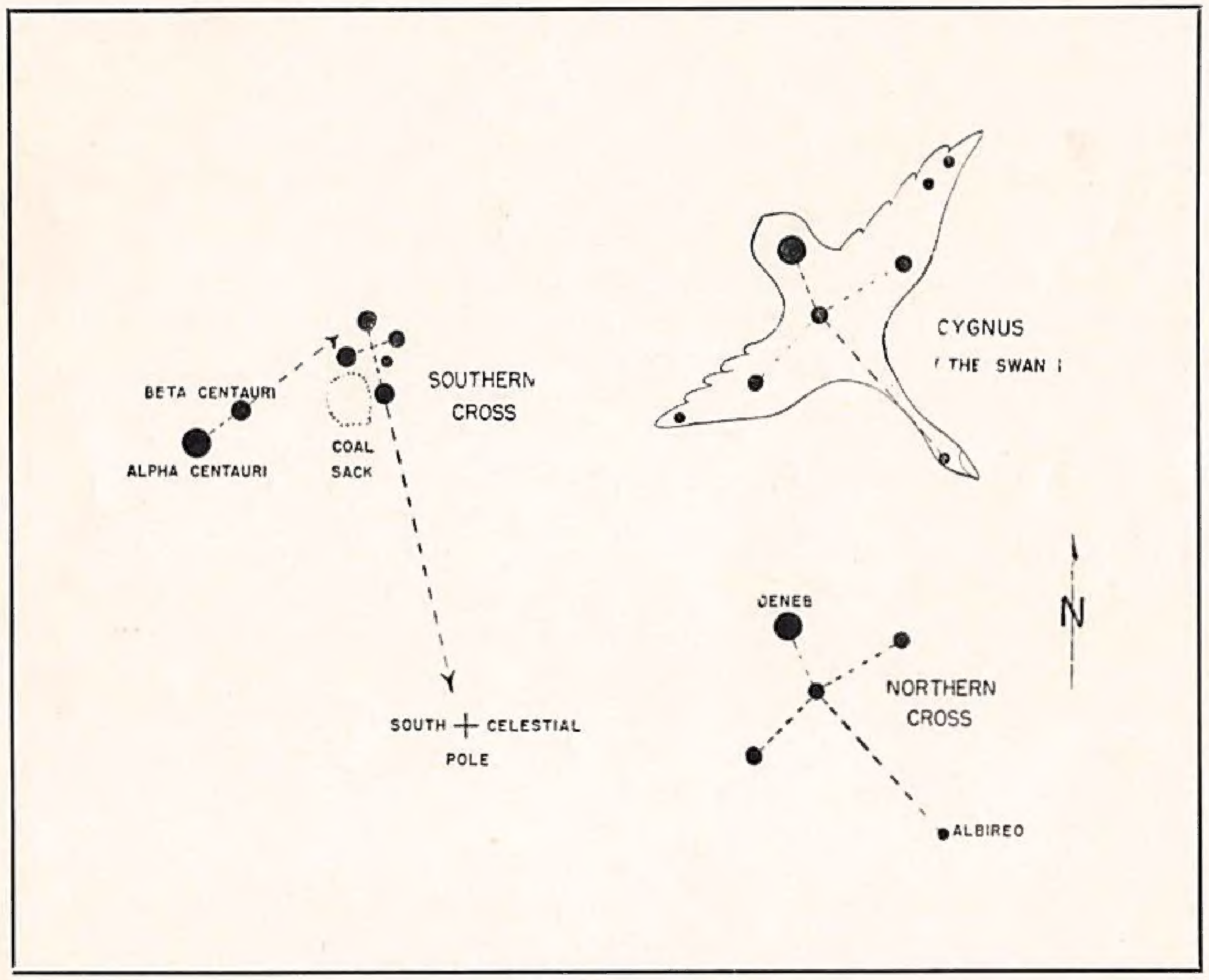

"Under the Southern Cross"
(See Page 2)

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January Announcement

The regular January meeting of the California Academy of Sciences will be held at 8 p. m. Tuesday, January 6, in the Morrison Planetarium chamber, Academy Hall of Sciences, Golden Gate Park. George W. Bunton, Planetarium manager, will give a special presentation of the new year's first show:

"Under the Southern Cross"

In this and other performances throughout January two crosses in the "indoor sky" will be featured. After pointing out the northern cross, visible to people living in the northern hemisphere, the lecturer will ferry his audience across the equator to visit the latitudes of Australia and South Africa, the home of the famous Southern Cross.

In addition to the southern constellations, the inversion of the seasons as one changes hemispheres will be shown.

As indicated in the illustration on the cover, the ancients thought the northern cross looked like a swan with its wings spread in flight. The bottom of the staff is the star Albireo marking the head of the swan, and the star at the top is Deneb, an Arabian word meaning *tail*.

Beginning January 1, regular Planetarium shows will be held daily (except Monday and Tuesday) at 3:30 and 8:15 p. m. An extra performance at 2 p. m. will be held on week-ends and holidays.

Turtles and Acrobatic Eels

Four infants from the Hawaiian Islands arrived at Steinhart Aquarium early in December. Less than a month old at the time, they were baby green turtles, each weighing about four ounces.

They were born on French Frigate Shoals and they came to San Francisco aboard the *S. F. Bryant*, the Standard Oil tanker equipped with special tanks for transporting live fish and other marine organisms.

According to Dr. Robert C. Miller, Academy director, the turtles can be expected to grow one-half inch in length and one-half pound in weight each month. At maturity they could attain a weight of 850 pounds and a length of four feet.

Included with the turtles in a shipment of assorted fish and marine life were six white conger eels. With the eels came a list of instructions from the man who collected them, Spencer Tinker, director, Waikiki Aquarium. He ruefully warned Dr. Earl S. Herald, curator of aquatic biology at Steinhart, that the "conger eels may crawl out of their tank." "They back up into a corner, stick the end of their tail out of the water and feel about. If they can reach the top of the tank—out they come, tail first."

These acrobatic fish and the baby turtles may be seen at Steinhart any day of the week between 10 a. m. and 5 p. m. The congers are still with us; Dr. Herald put them in a deep tank.

Museum Adds Henley Collection

Scheduled to go on display about the middle of this month is an exhibit of semiprecious minerals collected and donated to the Academy by Rollie Fahs Henley of San Francisco.

The exhibit will be housed temporarily in African Hall. In four cabinets will be a wide variety of cabochons—formed from jasper, agate, cinnabar, petrified wood, rhodochrosite, star rose quartz, and limestone, to mention a few. Illuminated rock sections will show that the beauty of the specimens is far more than skin deep.

For the amateur collector there will be a map of California showing where the various minerals are most abundant. A series of charts and pictures will explain the preparation of semiprecious stones.

Three Focal Points

"Science in Action" is not being broadcast from North American Hall, but a casual visitor to the Television Department on any Monday might go away with that impression.

Rehearsals staged at the Academy look deceptively like the real thing. Benjamin Draper now has a rehearsal studio which in size and shape is an exact duplicate of the studio at KRON-TV. Carbon copies of Dr. Earl S. Herald's desk and lab table are there, and guest scientists find themselves staring into the cold eyes of dummy television cameras.

Props can be arranged in their proper order, and the all important element of timing can be made even more precise. If Dr. Herald wonders if he can give a line while walking from behind the lab table to the other side of the studio, all he has to do is try it at rehearsal—the distances are the same here as at KRON.

The dummy cameras, says Draper, help impress on everyone that there are three people in a "Science in Action" show: the host, the guest scientist, and the camera. The guest can become accustomed to talking to Dr. Herald and to the camera—or, in other words, the viewer, who is the real "third person" in the act.

Back drops for the rehearsal studio are being constructed. Future guest scientists will find themselves in familiar surroundings when they are confronted by KRON's maze of electric wires, back drops, lights, and cameramen.

Another Anniversary

The current issue of *Leaflets of Western Botany* completes the quarterly journal's sixth volume. *Leaflets* was founded in 1932 by Miss Alice Eastwood and John Thomas Howell as a private project to facilitate the publication of botanical papers and notes of taxonomic and floristic interest that originate in their department and elsewhere.

The present volume, which has been published with financial aid from the California Botanical Club, contains among numerous other articles an annotated catalogue of California mosses by Leo F. Koch, studies of the Mallow Family in North and South America by Thomas H. Kearney, a comprehensive review of